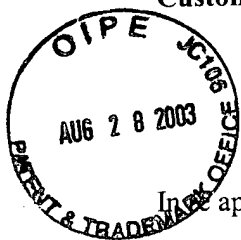


DOCKET NO. 93-C-077C1 (STMI01-93077)
Customer No. 30425



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

2814
PATENT
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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

In re application of : Loi N. Nguyen, et al.
U.S. Serial No. : 09/712,827
Filed : November 14, 2000
For : METHOD AND INTERLEVEL DIELECTRIC STRUCTURE FOR
IMPROVED METAL STEP COVERAGE
Group No. : 2814
Examiner : L. Pham

MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

Sir:

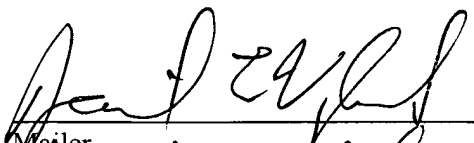
The undersigned hereby certifies that the following documents:

1. Amendment and Response to Office Action;
2. A postcard receipt;

relating to the above application, were deposited as "First Class Mail" with the United States Postal Service, addressed to Mail Stop NON-FEE AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on August 20, 2003.

Date: 8-20-03

Date: 8-20-03



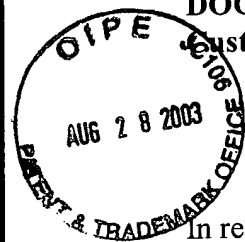
Daniel E. Venglarik
Reg. No. 39, 409

P.O. Box 802432
Dallas, Texas 75380
Phone: (972) 628-3600
Fax: (972) 628-3616
E-mail: dvenglarik@davismunck.com

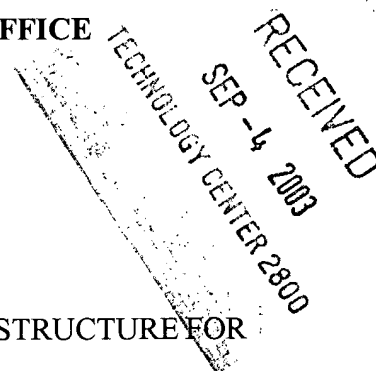
DOCKET NO. 93-C-077C1 (STMI01-93077)

PATENT

Customer No. 30425



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MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

No fees are believed to be necessary; however, in the event that any fees are required for the prosecution of this application, please charge any necessary fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0208. No extension of time is believed to be necessary. If, however, an extension of time is needed, the extension is requested and please charge the fee for this extension to Deposit Account No. 50-0208.

In response to the Office Action dated May 20, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows: